



Joint Industrial Development Authority

of Wythe County, Wytheville, and Rural Retreat

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PRESS RELEASE

Job Fair Spawns Strong Response to Career Readiness Certificates

WYTHEVILLE—As a result of promotion by organizers and employers at the recent Wytheville Job Fair, approximately 250 area job seekers have completed the WorkKeys tests used in Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate program. Over 91% of those taking the tests received either a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Career Readiness Certificate. Approximately 85% of those receiving certificates received either Silver or Gold Certificates. This compares with less than 87% of statewide testers receiving certificates, and only 68.5% of those receiving certificates receiving either Silver or Gold certificates. Organizers of the Wytheville Job Fair offered job seekers the opportunity to register for free assessments in the three key skills areas that make up the CRC core competencies—applied math, reading for information, and locating information. The results of the recent tests provide documentation of a quality workforce with competencies in these core skills that are required by 85% of profiled jobs in the United States.

Virginia's Career Readiness Certificate is an assessment-based credential that gives employers and career seekers a uniform measure of key workplace skills. The Career Readiness Certificate has been endorsed by the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the Virginia Manufacturing Association, the Virginia AFL-CIO, the Virginia Community College System, and the Virginia Workforce Council. To learn more about Virginia's CRC program, visit www.crc.virginia.gov or contact Workforce Development Services at Wytheville Community College (276-223-4724). For a limited time, job seekers may still be able to register for the CRC testing at no cost to them.

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Release Date: March 9, 2006

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